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U.S. expels Libyan linked to terror plot

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The United States has ordered the expulsion of a Libyan diplomat to the United Nations, citing concerns over terrorist activities sponsored by the radical regime of Col. Muammar Qaddafi, the State Department said yesterday.

The Libyan Mission to the United Nations was notified late Tuesday that Far hat Teebar, 32, had been declared *persona non grata* and ordered to leave the country. Mr. Teebar had been serving as an attache at the mission.

"The FBI informed the State Department that Mr. Teebar had been identified as being involved in a Libyan-directed plot against Libyan dissidents in the United States," said Joseph Reap, a State Department spokesman.

"These illegal activities were incompatible with his status under the terms of his entrance into the

United States under the U.N. Treaty," he said.

This is the first time that a Libyan diplomat has been expelled from the United Nations, Mr. Reap said.

"We are concerned about the situation in the United States because the potential clearly exists, as shown in the pattern of Libyan terrorist acts in Europe, against opponents of the Libyan government," Mr. Reap said.

"The pattern of Libyan terrorist activity abroad is clear and we do not

intend to let it get to this stage in this country," he added.

Mr. Teebar was one of five Libyan attaches to the U.N.

It could not be determined whether Mr. Teebar has already left the country and attempts to reach a representative of the Libyan Mission to the United Nations last night were unsuccessful.

A federal grand jury in Alexandria last week began investigating allegations that supporters of Mr. Qaddafi have plotted to assassinate

dissidents of the radical leader living in this country.

Sources close to that investigation said that Mr. Teebar's expulsion is related to that probe.

Sixteen Libyans from Northern Virginia, Michigan, Colorado and North Carolina were subpoenaed and called to testify before the federal grand jury. All but one, an employee of the Libyan Student Center in McClean, were students.

Although all 16 were dismissed after appearing before the grand

jury, sources said that the investigation is continuing.

The Washington Times this week reported that pro-Qaddafi Libyans in the United States had created nationwide support structures to assist terrorist activities. These "infrastructures" were said to consist of safe houses in major cities, weapons, ammunition, money and systems to provide medical and legal aid and transportation.

The State Department said Mr. Teebar's expulsion follows at least four known incidents this year overseas in which Libyan opponents of the Qaddafi regime were killed or wounded in terrorist attacks, Mr. Reap said.

In May 1981, the United States expelled all 21 Libyan diplomats from the embassy in Washington. The administration at that time cited "a wide range of Libyan provocations and misconduct, including support for international terrorism." The Libyan mission to the United Nations, however, was not covered by the order and was allowed to stay open.

The State Department declined to say whether it is considering expelling other diplomats of the Libyan U.N. Mission.

Eleven Libyans are now accredited to the United Nations. A total of 19 Libyans are part of the U.N. contingent. All are subject to travel bans restricting their movements to the five boroughs of New York City without prior U.S. approval, the State Department said.

The Libyan Student Center in McLean, which is prohibited from participating in any diplomatic activity, opened after the Libyan embassy in Washington was ordered closed. The Student Center's ostensible purpose is to provide financial support and other services to Libyan students in the United States.